



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TITHEBARN STREET, BURY.

August, 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee,  
County Borough of Bury.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith is presented for your perusal and consideration the Annual School Medical Report for 1942.

Owing to the need for extreme economy in the use of paper the report is as brief as possible.

As in previous reports, this preface contains some outlines which draw attention to the main body of the report.

1. The number of elementary school children medically examined at routine inspections in 1942 in Bury was 1,261.

Special Inspections and Re-inspections numbered 4,918 during the year under review. In 1941 the number was 3,355. As before the School Medical Service concentrated more upon special Inspections and Re-inspections in 1942. This project or concentration method is most advantageous and consists in directing the most energy on one line instead of diffusing effort. As explained in previous Reports, at special inspections and re-inspections children who have defects and are ailing in any way are medically examined and recommendations as to appropriate treatment are made, whereas at ordinary routine medical inspections a large number of healthy and comparatively healthy children are found.

In 1942 the highest numbers of special inspections and re-inspections (4,918) were made, greatly exceeding those of former years.

2. The total number of examinations of children in the elementary schools by School Nurses made in 1942 was 18,192. Out of this rather large number 559 individual children were found to be unclean, mostly verminous. Appropriate treatment was given at the School Clinics.

3. One hundred and seventy-seven cases of Scabies infection of elementary school children were referred for treatment.

From August, 1942, a special scabies clinic was set up at Clerke Street First Aid Post, where it still continues.

The Chairman and Members of the Bury Civil Defence Committee very promptly and generously agreed to the use of Clerke Street First Aid Post and the Civil Defence Staff there in treating cases of Scabies. It is important that all infected members of a family be treated until they are cured, otherwise the infection will be passed back and forth from one to another. Equally important is the very necessary procedure of ensuring that all clothing, bedding, towels, etc., and similar things which come in contact with the body be boiled each time they are washed. If not it is likely the infection will persist. The disease is caused by a small mite, the itch-mite, burrowing into the skin. It is a disease of uncleanness, although it sometimes happens that individuals who pay attention to hygiene are accidentally infected by contact with something which contains the itch-mite. Since its inception the special scabies clinic at Clerke Street has done very good work in curing infected cases, but in the few cases who get continual infections those in charge of the children must help by paying attention to the boiling of clothing, bedding, towels, etc., otherwise the work of the Clinic is negated.

4. As a result of the nutritional survey of Bury elementary school children in 1942 it was found that 1.75 per cent. was of excellent nutrition, 85.33 per cent. was of normal nutrition, 12.37 per cent. was of slightly subnormal nutrition, and 0.55 per cent. was of bad nutrition.

That such a large percentage (85.33) was found indicating normal nutrition is an excellent reflection on rationing.

It is quite clear that food is one of the deciding factors in war. An inadequate food supply can bring a nation to defeat. Dietary deficiency brings some of the commonest and most serious diseases in its train, and there is a close connection between general health, physical and mental, and diet.

Over three years of war have passed, and it is evident that the great mass of the school children are not suffering from malnutrition through lack of diet in quantity or quality. To date seven feeding centres at schools are in operation, and 20,704 dinners were served during 1942. Four more school feeding centres will shortly be opened.

5. The incidence of infectious diseases amongst the school population has been low in the year under review, apart from an epidemic of measles.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified in 1942 was 48, as against 29 in 1941; 21 in 1940; 21 in 1939; 99 in 1938; 57 in 1937, and in 1936 was 87.

Diphtheria cases notified in 1942 were 25, and the number notified in 1941 was 18; in 1940, 8; in 1939, 63; in 1938, 107; in 1937, 75; and in 1936 was 150.

In 1942 only 643 school children were immunised against diphtheria. In 1941 1,812 scholars were immunised, and from January to May, 1943, 1,266 school children received complete immunisation against the disease.

The number of cases of diphtheria amongst the school population numbered 25 in 1942, whereas in 1941 the number of cases was 15. Looking up past records it will be found that in 1936 only 122 school children were immunised, and in that year 132 cases of diphtheria were notified as occurring amongst elementary scholars.

At the end of 1942, 3,256 Bury school children had been immunised against diphtheria. That is approximately half the school population. Up to date 4,590 school children have been immunised.

6. At the secondary schools 438 scholars were medically examined during 1942. Of these 3.65 per cent. were of excellent nutrition, 92.70 were of normal nutrition, and 3.65 per cent. were of slightly subnormal nutrition, and none were of poor nutrition.



7. It is worth noting that Bury school children made 6,855 attendances at The Wylde Clinic in the year under review. This is a large number, and considering that other clinics are carried on at The Wylde it appears that a new clinic building is necessary. This will be impossible for some time owing to restrictions on material and labour.

8. Despite war-time difficulties which arise through Dentists joining H.M. Forces, the Dental Clinic carried on, and in this Department 3,045 children were treated in 1942. The total number of dental inspections during the year were 4,445. These are good records.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to Dr. Mackinnon, Dr. Ratcliffe, the School Nurses, and the Clerical Staff of the School Medical and Public Health Department for the assistance they have given in the carrying out of the important work in all branches of the School Medical Service. I also wish to thank the Director of Education and his Staff, together with the Head Teachers of the various schools, for their valuable help. In addition I desire to place on record my appreciation of the very useful work done by Mrs. Rainey, Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C.

I wish to thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for the courtesy and consideration afforded me during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. M. DAVIDSON LOBBAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

School Medical Officer.

## REVIEW OF THE FACTS DISCLOSED BY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

**Tonsils and Adenoids.**—During the year 37 children were found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils requiring treatment, while 133 were suffering from enlargement without evidence of ill-effect, and were referred for observation. Eleven (1, E\*) children were referred for treatment and 5 for observation for adenoids, while the figure for children suffering from both conditions together was 28 requiring treatment and 4 observation. In addition 66 (2, E\*) children were referred for treatment for other defects of the nose and throat.

Comparative figures for the previous four years are:—

Enlarged Tonsils:	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Children requiring treatment .....	177	45	41	58
Children referred for observation...	166	82	57	148
<b>Adenoids:</b>				
Children requiring treatment ... ..	32	6	5	8
Children referred for observation...	12	4	—	7
<b>Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids:</b>				
Children requiring treatment ... ..	21	48	25	20
Children referred for observation...	—	—	1	7
<b>Other defects of nose and throat:</b>				
Children requiring treatment or observation ... ..	19	22	32	29

**Tuberculosis.**—Two cases of suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered.

**Bronchitis.**—Fifty-two (1, E\*) cases of Bronchitis were discovered during the year and 25 were referred for treatment and 27 for observation. Most of the children notified on Form 40a D suffered from Bronchitis. Many other cases found were not sufficiently severe to be notified, but they required Ultra Violet Light treatment—from which much benefit was derived.

The number of cases of Bronchitis discovered and referred for treatment in previous years was:—1938, 89; 1939, 71; 1940, 65; 1941, 86.

\* Includes Evacuees.

**Skin.**—A number of cases of Skin Disease were discovered during the Routine Inspections, and many more were sent as " specials " to the clinic for treatment. Among the cases of Skin Disease found were:—

	(a) Referred for Treatment	(b) Referred for Observation only
Ringworm, Scalp ... ..	—	—
Ringworm, Body ... ..	1	—
Scabies ... ..	177 (21 E*)	—
Impetigo ... ..	135 (8 E*)	—
Other Skin Diseases (Non-Tuberculous).	448 (21 E*)	26

The figures for previous years are:—

Ringworm, Scalp:	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
(a) Referred for treatment...	—	4	—	—
(b) Referred for observation only ...	—	—	—	—
Ringworm, Body:				
(a) Referred for treatment...	9	1	2	7
(b) Referred for observation only ...	—	—	—	—
Scabies:				
(a) Referred for treatment...	36	29	16	50
(b) Referred for observation only ...	—	—	—	1
Impetigo:				
(a) Referred for treatment...	88	45	73	83
(b) Referred for observation only ...	—	—	—	2
Other Skin Diseases (non-Tuberculous):				
(a) Referred for treatment...	394	260	290	346
(b) Referred for observation only ...	7	14	29	27

**External Eye Disease.**—101 (8, E\*) cases of external eye disease were found during the year, 97 of which were referred for treatment. The following table shows the nature of these cases:—

	(a) Referred for Treatment.	(b) Referred for Observation only
Blepharitis ... ..	10 (1 E*)	3
Conjunctivitis ... ..	38 (4 E*)	—
Corneal Opacities ... ..	1	—
Other ... ..	47 (3 E*)	1
Keratitis ... ..	1	—

The figures for previous years are:—

Blepharitis:	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
(a) Referred for treatment...	47	51	22	8
(b) Referred for observation...	—	—	1	1

\* Includes Evacuees.

Conjunctivitis:	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
(a) Referred for treatment... ..	47	27	42	37
(b) Referred for observation... ..	—	—	—	1
Corneal Opacities:				
(a) Referred for treatment... ..	—	—	2	—
(b) Referred for observation... ..	—	—	—	—
Other:				
(a) Referred for treatment ... ..	74	58	63	30
(b) Referred for observation... ..	14	4	—	3

**Defective Vision and Squint.**—509 (12, E\*) cases of defective vision and squint were found. Of these 429 were cases of defective vision and 80 cases of squint. 471 were referred for treatment and 38 for observation only.

Previous figures are:—

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Cases of defective vision and squint found... ..	546	608	505	435
Cases of defective vision and squint referred for treatment ... ..	523	553	454	391
Cases of defective vision and squint referred for observation ... ..	23	55	51	44

**Ear Diseases and Hearing.**—Six children were found to be suffering from defective hearing, and 32 from other ear diseases. Children who have been treated at the clinic are called up subsequently from time to time, in order that any recurrence may be detected.

#### **DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. SCHOOL CHILDREN.**

The position at the end of 1942 with regard to the immunisation of school children was that 3,256 children of school age were wholly immunised against diphtheria. Of the children fully immunised none contracted diphtheria. Partial immunisation mitigated the effects of the disease and probably staved off fatal consequences in the few cases of partially immunised children who contracted the disease.

#### **" FOLLOWING UP."**

Medical Inspection is obviously of very little use unless those children who are found to be suffering from some disease or defect are " followed up " in order to ensure that the necessary treatment is obtained.

\* Includes Evacuees.



During the year the School Nurses have carried out the following visits, etc. :—

Number of visits to school departments in connection with medical inspection ... ..	452
Number of visits to schools to examine children for cleanliness ... ..	322
Number of visits and re-visits to homes ... ..	275
„ examinations for cleanliness ... ..	18,192

### MEDICAL TREATMENT.

**Minor Ailments.**—A Clinic for the treatment of Minor Ailments is held at The Wylde. The accommodation consists of waiting room, dressing room, consulting room, and nurses' room.

The Clinic is open six days a week during school terms. Children attend from 9 to 10 a.m., when they are seen by the Medical Officer. They are either treated or referred to their own doctor in the case of children having a regular medical attendant.

A child may attend other clinics such as the Sunlight, Immunisation, Remedial Exercises Clinic, etc. The record of its attendances at all Clinics and the results obtained are placed on a key card, which gives a complete clinical medical history of each school child.

The number of children attending the Minor Ailments Clinic during the year 1942 is shown in the following table :—

Number of children attending from 1941 ... ..	77	(2	E*)
„ „ discharged during 1942 ... ..	1,281	(78	E*)
„ „ still attending at end of 1942 ... ..	108	(4	E*)
„ fresh children who attended during 1942 ... ..	1,312	(79	E*)
„ attendances ... ..	6,855	(446	E*)
Clinic open ... .. days	309		
Average attendance per child ... ..	4.94		
Average daily attendance ... ..	22.18		

In addition to the above, 402 (12, E\*) children attended on three or four successive days for mydriatic application before seeing the School Oculist for purpose of refraction. This represents 1,407 attendances which are not included in the total attendances in the previous table.

Comparative figures for previous years are as follows :—

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Number of fresh children who attended Clinic	1,178	856	916	1,100
Number of attendances ... ..	5,269	3,823	3,692	4,464
Average attendance per child ... ..	4.2	3.9	3.66	3.63
Average daily attendance ... ..	18.3	13.1	12.35	14.44
Children attending for mydriatic application..	456	478	423	481

\* Includes Evacuees.

Altogether 822 (70, E\*) parents were seen at the Clinic during the course of the year. This was largely in connection with defects found in the course of Medical Inspection.

Much prolonged treatment is caused by some children ceasing to attend the Clinic before being cured, and then relapsing and coming back in as bad a state as they were at the commencement of their treatment.

**Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Many of the cases requiring operative interference are treated by general practitioners. New arrangements came into force during 1930 with the Board of the Bury Infirmary under which certain cases are treated at that Institution. No charge is made by the Board to the Education Committee, and correspondingly no charge is made by the Education Committee to parents of children treated. The Local Authority makes an annual grant to the Infirmary in connection with this scheme.

The following table contains particulars of the cases treated during the last five years:—

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Total number of cases receiving some form of treatment ... ..	159	165	123	137 (5 E*)	221 (4 E*)
Number of cases receiving operative treatment under the local Authority's Scheme ... ..	21	22	17	13 (3 E*)	44 (4 E*)
Number of cases receiving operative treatment by private practitioner or otherwise ... ..	74	86	38	80 (2 E*)	111

**Tuberculosis.**—The following table shows the number of cases of definite Tuberculosis which have received Institutional treatment during the year:—

At Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children, Leasowe:

	No.	Total No. of Days.
Boys ... ..	2	465
Girls ... ..	2 (1 E*)	124

At Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry:

Boy ... ..	1	34
Girl ... ..	1	9

At Bury Infirmary:

Girl ... ..	1 (E*)	26
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At Halifax Sanatorium:

Girl ... ..	1	261
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At Wrightington Hospital, near Wigan:

Boy ... ..	1	365
Girl ... ..	1	121

\* Includes Evacuees.

**Skin Disease.**—The majority of the cases of Skin Disease occurring among school children were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic.

**External Eye Disease and Vision.**—All cases of External Eye Disease are now referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Local Authority at the School Ophthalmic Clinic. The majority of children suffering from defective vision are also examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

The following table gives particulars of the children treated during the past five years:—

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
No. of children submitted to refraction... ..	456	480	423	435 (12 E*)	402 (12 E*)
„ already provided with suitable spectacles	49	74	99	64	85
„ not requiring spectacles... ..	58	51	39	44	27
„ for whom spectacles were prescribed..	349	355	285	327 (9 E*)	290 (7 E*)
„ who had obtained the necessary spectacles by the end of the year... ..	254	315	255	244 (6 E*)	200 (7 E*)

In cases where the parent cannot afford to pay for glasses the Education Committee pay the cost wholly or in part. The number of cases in which such assistance was rendered during 1942 was 11 (4 E\*). In each instance spectacles were provided free.

Some parents are still too dilatory in obtaining spectacles, and even when they do obtain them they do not insist on the child wearing them.

**Ear Disease and Hearing.**—No special treatment is provided apart from that which may be obtained at the School Clinic. 32 cases of Minor Ear Defect have been treated.

Cases offering difficulty are referred for opinion and treatment if necessary to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist at Bury Infirmary.

**Dental Defects.**—See Table IV. at end of this report.

**Crippling Defects of Orthopædics.**—An arrangement is in force under which Orthopædic cases from Bury are treated under the Scheme of the Lancashire County Council.

\* Includes Evacuees.



An Orthopædic Clinic is held once weekly at the "Uplands," Whitefield.

At Ancoats Hospital, Manchester; cases are seen for further opinion or for further examination, including X-ray photographs. Apart from examination and out-patient treatment, only short stay cases are admitted to the Wards of the Ancoats Hospital.

At Biddulph Grange Orthopædic Hospital, near Congleton, which Hospital belongs to the Lancashire County Council, in-patient treatment is afforded.

Particulars of cases dealt with at the Orthopædic Clinic during the year are given below:—

**NEW CASES:—**

First Consultation with Surgeon... ..	8
Second or subsequent Consultations with Surgeon ...	3

**OLD CASES:—**

Total Consultations with Surgeon ... ..	31 (1 F*)
Total Consultations with Surgeon—all cases ... ..	42

**NEW CASES.—Analysis of Defects:—**

Dislocation of Shoulder... ..	1
Infantile Paralysis ... ..	1
Leg Deformity ... ..	1
Foot Deformity ... ..	4
Knee Deformity ... ..	1
	<hr/>
	8

Two children were admitted to Biddulph Grange Orthopædic Hospital during the year.

### REMEDIAL EXERCISES.

Special classes for remedial exercises were held at the School Clinic during 1942. The cases and attendances were as follows:—

**(a) Analysis of Cases:—**

Bad posture ... ..	7
Flat feet ... ..	7
Mouth Breathing ... ..	10
Old Poliomyelitis ... ..	1
Chest Deformity ... ..	2
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	27

**(b) Attendances...** 549

Average attendance per child, 20.3.

### ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT TREATMENT.

The treatment of Minor Ailments among the school children was extended in scope and increased in efficiency by the purchase of a Mercury Vapour Ultra-Violet Light Lamp.



## Artificial Sunlight Clinic Cases and Attendances:—

## (a) Analysis of Cases.

Anaemia ... ..	2	
Malnutrition ... ..	2	
Bronchitis ... ..	16	(1 E*)
Adenitis (not T.B.) ... ..	7	
Skin ... ..	11	(3 E*)
General Debility ... ..	47	(6 E*)
Alopecia ... ..	2	
Breathlessness ... ..	1	
Rickets... ..	1	
Enlarged Tonsils ... ..	1	
Asthma ... ..	1	
Sub-normal Nutrition ... ..	1	
Catarrh ... ..	7	
Frequent Colds and Sore Throats... ..	4	(1 E*)
Cough ... ..	7	(2 E*)
Gastric Pain ... ..	1	
T.B. Contact ... ..	1	

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Total ... .. 115 (13 E\*)

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Tuberculous, glands ... ..	7	(1 E*)
„ abdomen ... ..	1	

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Total ... .. 8

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Total under both heads ... 123 (14 E\*)

## (b) Attendances.

Miscellaneous cases—115 children made 2,200 attendances.

Tubercular cases — 8 children made 128 attendances.

Average attendance per child=18.93.

The total attendances and average attendance per child for previous years are given below:—

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Total attendances ... ..	4,144	3,305	3,516	2,446
Average attendance per child ...	19.45	15.88	18.77	13.66

**CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.**

Notice is sent to the parent of every child of the date and time of inspection at school, and the parent is invited to attend. The percentage of parents attending was:—

“ Entrants ” ... ..	67.33%
“ Second Age Group ” ... ..	33.19%
“ Third Age Group ” ... ..	11.40%

\* Includes Evacuees.

## PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The following report is submitted:—

The Organiser of Physical Training joined H.M. Forces on the 4th September, 1940.

The Education Committee have continued to supply games materials.

The teaching of Physical Education in schools of the Authority is based upon the Board of Education Syllabus for Physical Training, 1933, has been continued.

Under existing war conditions difficulties have been experienced in the case of the training of the boys, owing to the call to H.M. Forces of a number of the younger men teachers. The older men assistant teachers have, it is very gratifying to state, undergone training courses for physical training, and it is hoped that the standard of this very important section may be maintained.

The two new gymnasia, which have been completed, afford the very best accommodation for the teaching of physical training to the scholars in the senior schools.

Keep Fit classes are taken and are enjoyed.

The appointment of an Organiser of Youth Activities has led to a much wider use of these gymnasia.

## SCHOOL BATHS.

The Technical College Baths Superintendent and teacher of boys' swimming was called to H.M. Forces on the 28th August, 1941.

Continued use of the bath has been made throughout the year, and it can be said that, in the circumstances, swimming instruction has been a successful feature.

## PROVISION OF MEALS.

During the year it was found necessary to provide to school children 100,102 meals, comprising 29,704 dinners and 70,398 one-third pint bottles of milk.

The year has brought into operation the excellent Cooking Canteen at the Moorgate Centre and School Feeding Centres at seven schools in the area. It can be stated that a good mid-day meal is provided at a reasonable charge, which has been 5d. per meal for children under 8 years of age and 6d. per meal for children of 8 years and upwards. The great demand for these mid-day meals has led to the carrying out of extensions at the Moorgate Centre and also to the provision of a number of additional School Feeding Centres, which, it is hoped, will be brought into operation in 1943.

### **BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE, AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.**

No schools for the treatment of these children have so far been provided by the Local Education Authority, but Blind and Deaf children are sent to outside institutions.

During 1942 the following children were maintained in special schools or hospitals:—

Blind ... ..	3	Orthopaedic cases... ..	9
Deaf ... ..	6	Tuberculous ... ..	10
Physically defective ...	4	Epileptic ... ..	1

### **INSTITUTIONS.**

Children in hospitals or other institutions are visited periodically by the School Medical Officer, who discusses with doctors in charge the progress made by the patients.

### **EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.**

During the year 71 children have been examined as to their fitness to undertake employment (usually the delivery of newspapers) out of school hours.

In many cases, these children have been employed for several weeks before the necessary certificate has been obtained. It is necessary, therefore, to stress the point that all individuals, employing school children, must ask the children to produce the necessary certificate, otherwise if the practice mentioned above is persisted in, stronger action will have to be taken.

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

During the year 1942 the total number of children inspected was 438. Particulars as to age and sex will be found in the following table:—

Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Boys ..	2	27	52	52	43	44	15	2	—	237
Girls ..	—	27	51	30	43	36	14	—	—	201
Totals..	2	54	103	82	86	80	29	2	—	438

Total number of visits of School Medical Staff for the purposes of Medical Inspection:—

Doctor ..... 16

School Nurse ..... 24

Interference with the school routine was, as far as possible, avoided. The Head Masters of the two schools very kindly placed their rooms at my disposal, and I desire to express my thanks to them and to the other members of the staff for their interest in the work of Medical Inspection and for their valuable assistance.

**Nutrition.**—The following Table shows the classification of the nutrition of the pupils examined at the Secondary Schools during the year under review:—

	No. of Pupils Examined	Excellent		Normal		Slightly Sub Normal.		Poor.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boys .....	237	8	3.38	221	93.25	8	3.37	—	—
Girls .....	201	8	3.98	185	92.04	8	3.98	—	—
Totals...	438	16	3.65	406	92.70	16	3.65	—	—

## REMEDIAL EXERCISES.

No Secondary School children attended special classes for Remedial Exercises during the year 1942.

## ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT TREATMENT.

The treatment of minor ailments by ultra-violet light therapy is available to Secondary School children, and during the year one child suffering from chilblains made 25 attendances.



TABLE I.

**Return of Medical Inspections, 1942.****A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.**

(1) Entrants 900. Second Age Group 247. Third Age Group 114. Total, 1,261.

(2) Number of other Routine Inspections: Nil.

Grand total, 1,261.

**B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.**

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections, 4,918 (208 E\*)

TABLE II.

**Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.**

Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly sub-norm'l)		D. Bad	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1,261	22	1.75	1,076	85.33	156	12.37	7	.55

TABLE III.

Group I. Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness):

Total number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 1244\* (81 E)

Group II. Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint under the Authority's Scheme:

Errors of refraction (including squint) ... 402\* (12 E)

Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... Nil

Total ... 402\* (12 E)

Number of children for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed ... 290\* (7 E)

(b) Obtained ... 200\* (7 E)

Note: \*Includes Evacuees.

Group III. Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat,  
under the Authority's Scheme:

Received operative treatment ... ..	44*	(4 E)
Received other forms of treatment ... ..	66	
Total number treated ... ..	110*	(4 E)

TABLE IV.

## Dental Inspection and Treatment.

## (1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist—

(a) Routine Age Groups ... ..	3512*	(96 E)
(b) Specials ... ..	933	
(c) Total (Routine and Specials) ... ..	4,445*	(96 E)

(2) Number found to require treatment ... .. 3,966

(3) Number actually treated ... .. 3,045

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 3,791

## (5) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection ... ..	27
Treatment ... ..	395

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Total ... .. 422

## (6) Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth ... ..	1,323*	(30 E)
Temporary Teeth ... ..	104	

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Total ... .. 1,427\* (30 E)

## (7) Extractions:—

Permanent Teeth ... ..	475*	(14 E)
Temporary Teeth ... ..	4,310*	(112 E)

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Total ... .. 4,785\* (126 E)

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for  
extractions ... .. Nil

## (9) Other operations:—

Permanent Teeth ... ..	176*	(12 E)
Temporary Teeth ... ..	206*	(8 E)

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Total ... .. 382\* (20 E)

Note: \* Includes Evacuees.

TABLE V.

## VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons ... ..	15	10
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons ... ..	18,192	6371
(3) Number of individual children found unclean...	559	668
(4) Number of individual children cleansed voluntarily ... ..	19	29
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921... ..	—	
(b) Under the School Attendance By-laws	—	

TABLE VI.

## BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are NOT at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return should relate to all such children, including evacuees resident in the Authority's area:—

	At a Public Elementary School	At an Institution other than a Special School	At No School or Institution
Blind Children .....	1	—	—
Deaf Children .....	1	—	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.—Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1942, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 ... .. One.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TITHEBARN STREET, BURY.

May, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee,  
County Borough of Bury.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual School Medical Report for 1943.

The method of medical inspection adopted during the year was to medically examine entrants to the schools and leavers. Survey examinations were also made at which school children of any age were picked out from classes if they required medical treatment or observation. The second age group of eight years was not medically examined at routine inspections. Altogether 1,240 school children were medically inspected, and the number examined at special medical inspections and re-inspections was 3,462.

The School Nurses made 16,371 inspections of school children in 1943, mostly for cleanliness. Out of this number 668 individual children were found to be unclean, and the necessary treatments were given at the School Clinic.

There were 263 cases of Scabies referred for treatment at the special Scabies Clinic. At the time of writing this report the number of cases of Scabies appears to be getting less and the peak period passed. It is difficult to eradicate Scabies in war-time, but it is certainly being kept under.

After four years of war-time conditions the nutrition of the Bury School children remains very good. In fact, in 1943, 86 per cent. of the children exhibited normal nutrition, 9 per cent. were of slightly subnormal nutrition, over 5 per cent. were of excellent nutrition, none were of bad nutrition, and these figures are the best so far obtained since nutritional surveys were introduced in 1935. No doubt this very good state of affairs has been brought about by the provision of school meals and also by the employment of a large part of the population at good wages. It appears that many articles of diet previously thought of as necessities can be done without. To my mind, however, a more plentiful supply of fats should be allocated to regions where harsh climatic conditions prevail in the winter-time. Towards the end of 1943 there was a noticeable increase of the common cold amongst the school population. This might not have been so marked if a larger share of fats had been available. Besides causing absenteeism the common cold so affects the body that more serious illnesses may follow it.